

such a record as will enable him at a glance to know where and when and how often he has called on any certain family or person. This will keep him from going oftener than needful to some places, and help him to do his duty in going as frequently as he should to others. System is everything in pastoral work. It is the secret of all great pastoral success.

#### The Neglected Classes

Baptist Teacher.

Very tender was our gracious Lord of publicans and sinners. They were the classes that were neglected and despised by the religious teachers of his time. And all the more on that very account Jesus singled them out and manifested toward them his divine compassion. The farthest off he went after, and to the lowest down he stretched out a helping hand.

But we must not upon this account come to the unwarrantable conclusion that our royal Master's exclusive solicitude was for the sin-sodden *habitués* of the slums. A soul is a soul, no matter about the kind of body with which it may be clothed, or the sphere of life in which it may move. And all souls are lost, even tho many have sunk deeper down than others, and many outwardly wear sadder signs of degradation. And it is an utter misunderstanding of Christ's preaching and practice which leads many well-meaning workers in the kingdom of God to suppose that the great stress of the church's efforts should be laid upon the salvation of those whose souls and bodies have been so burnt out by the very fires of the pit that there is scarcely anything but a cinder left. There is hope even for them, at least for some of them, and this is what Christ means to teach. There may be some who are past feeling and in whose case there is nothing that even the grace of God can lay hold of it, but this is not for us to know, and many that we call "abandoned" are lost at last simply because they are abandoned.

In our times, at least, there is not so much disposition to abandon them, and the passion for slum work was never so intense as now. Hundreds and thousands of heroic Christian men and women are going down into the depths and fishing for pearls in the midst of the slime and filth of the slums. And ever and anon their labors are rewarded by results that fill their eyes with tears and their hearts with gratitude. But many of the victories are illusive, and perhaps a large majority of those over whose apparent conversion the workers rejoiced, fall back into the depths from which they seemed to have been rescued and are swallowed up. What then? Shall the work be abandoned, as if it were all in vain?

God forbid! But it is pertinent in this connection to insist that this is not the greatest nor the most hopeful work of the Christian church, but rather the saving of the children before they have found their way to the slums—of the young men before

they have come to be rum-soaked, of the young women before the bloom of virtue has given place to the paint of the harlot. Jesus loved the young man who had kept at least outwardly all the commandments from his youth up. And he very patiently labored with Nicodemus, a rich ruler of the Jews. And he was quite as considerate of Mary and Martha in their elegant home as of the poor woman who was a sinner.

The tendency in the modern church, in so far as concerns the real, earnest, spiritual workers,—and they are the only ones that amount to anything,—is to neglect not the vicious and degraded,—but rather what are called the better classes, who, in consequence, in large numbers are drifting away, and as they drift might be tempted to say, "No man hath cared for our souls." Grant that they are proud and self-sufficient,—even so were we,—and they need the gospel none the less but all the more on that very account.

It requires more courage to deal with a millionaire than with a "bum," with a fine lady than an outcast woman, but having invoked help of Him, we ought to go forward to the task. And if our hearts fail us in the matter of addressing these full fledged and fashionable sinners, we can at least seek to gather in the children, and thru the children, by and by, it may be we shall get hold of the heart-strings of the parents. By all means let us go for the better classes as well as for the neglected masses. All the diamonds are not found in the filth. There are precious stones among the mountains, and what we want is courage to climb as well as to dive.

Rain may to us seem lost when it falls on a desert, but it fulfills some purpose of God. So the gospel word falling on the hard heart; it sometimes works a change at last; and even if not so, it leaves men without excuse.—*Fausset.*

### The Mission Field

#### April Report of the Missionary Board of the Brethren Church

##### RECEIPTS

##### GENERAL FUND

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Mrs. Sophie Rife, Roann, Ind.,                | \$ 1 26 |
| S. S. C. E., Phila., Pa.,                     | 2 00    |
| National S. S. C. E.,                         | 10 00   |
| Phila. Young People's Society,                | 5 00    |
| Brethren church, Hudson, Iowa,                | 4 08    |
| N. C. Nielson, Herrington, Kans.,             | 3 00    |
| Brethren church, West Independence, O.,       | 2 03    |
| " " Milledgeville, Ill.,                      | 13 76   |
| A brother, Jones Mills, Pa.,                  | 1 00    |
| Brethren church, Warsaw, Ind.,                | 1 56    |
| Corinth " Twelve Mile, Ind.,                  | 1 33    |
| L. & P. Hoover, Waterloo, Iowa,               | 3 65    |
| Cora Snyder, " "                              | 10 00   |
| King's Children, Enon church,                 | 6 55    |
| D. D. Flickinger, " "                         | 4 00    |
| Barrel money, " "                             | 1 04    |
| A friend, " "                                 | 50      |
| Brethren church (Mt. Zion) Aurelia,           | 3 10    |
| A Sister, Columbus, Ohio,                     | 35      |
| Brethren ch., St James, Md., Easter offering, | 3 50    |
| H. C. Williams, Lansdale, Pa.,                | 1 00    |
| Silver Creek and Falls City churches,         | 16 34   |
| Y. P. S. C. E., Louisville, Ohio,             | 1 10    |

|                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| S. S. C. E., Phila., Pa.,         | 1 00     |
| J. S. C. Spickerman, Maryville Mo | 50       |
|                                   | \$ 97 17 |

##### WASHINGTON FUND

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Sevilla Lichty, Waterloo, Iowa,        | \$ 1 00  |
| S. Berkeybile, Altoona, Pa.,           | 1 00     |
| Brethren church, Hagerstown, Md.,      | 4 00     |
| " " Bethany, Va.,                      | 3 60     |
| " " Washington, D. C.,                 | 48 08    |
| Wooburn church and Sunday school, Md., | 1 50     |
|  | \$ 59 18 |

##### CHICAGO FUND

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Maple Grove, Sunday School, Ind.,         | \$ 7 00    |
| C. K. Kelso & wife, Swanton, Ohio,        | 2 00       |
| Mrs. C. H. Harvey, Chicago, Ill.,         | 1 00       |
| C. M. Harvey, " "                         | 5 00       |
| Mrs. Wm. Mohler, Lima, Ohio,              | 2 00       |
| Brother Shanlus, Waterloo, Iowa,          | 1 00       |
| Collection, Stanly, Wis., above expenses, | 2 62       |
| Offerings Chicago Mission,                | 3 77       |
|   | \$ 24 39   |
| Total during the month,                   | \$ 181 24  |
| Amount of receipts previously reported,   | 1374 07    |
|   | \$ 1556 31 |

##### EXPENDITURES

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Cash sent direct to J. O. Talley, | \$ 15 39   |
| " " " W. M. Lyon,                 | 56 68      |
| Order No 96, W. M. Lyon,          | 25 00      |
| Cash, J. O. Talley,               | 50 23      |
| Cash, J. O. Talley,               | 50 00      |
|                                   | \$ 197 30  |
| Expenditures previously reported, | 1366 30    |
|                                   | \$ 1553 60 |

##### FOREIGN FUND

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| J. S. C. Spickerman, Maryville, Mo.,       | \$ 1 00   |
| Hattie Kanauer, Pioneer, Ohio,             | 1 00      |
| Lillie Wright, Allentown, Pa.,             | 91        |
| Mrs. C. Meyers, Millersburg, Iowa,         | 2 00      |
| Brethren Sunday school, Washington, D. C., | 5 00      |
|  | \$ 9 91   |
| Amount previously reported,                | 372 97    |
|  | \$ 382 88 |

JACOB C. CASSEL,  
Sec. M. B. of the B. C.

#### Report of Washington Church Fund

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Emma Clymer, Loree church, Ind.,                  | 1 00      |
| Nancy Zoda, " " "                                 | 1 00      |
| Grace C. Cover, Salem " "                         | 1 00      |
| M. A. Gordon and family, Salem church, Ind.,      | 2 50      |
| Carroll Ridenour, brick card, " " "               | 1 70      |
| Three Sunday-school scholars, Twelve Mile, Ind.,  | 4 65      |
| A sister, Twelve Mile, Ind.,                      | 85        |
| S. B. Bickley, Waterloo, Iowa additional,         | 2 00      |
| Will and Ida Meyers, Nevada, Mo.,                 | 2 00      |
| Collected by Mrs R. I. Garber, Washington, D. C., | 1 00      |
| Dr. M. M. Moffit, Washington, D. C.,              | 25 00     |
| Wm. P. Nininger and wife, Roanoke Va.,            | 10 00     |
|   | 52 70     |
| Amount previously reported,                       | 3649 80   |
|   | \$3702 50 |

The necessary improvements are going on at the Washington church and as soon as they are completed I will report their cost. We are still depending upon a few unpaid pledges to cover the changes and improvements necessary. One subscriber that felt very sick when he wrote his pledge of fifty dollars has as yet not found it convenient to pay any part of it. This may refresh his memory.

JACOB C. CASSEL,  
Sec. M. B. of the B. C.